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**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116
EXPEDITED PROCEDURE - EXAMINING GROUP [1700]**

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re Application

Inventor(s): DeOrnellas, et al.

SC/Serial No.: 09/692,007

Confirm. No.: 7175

Filed: October 19, 2000

Title: **METHOD FOR USING A HARD MASK FOR
CRITICAL DIMENSION GROWTH
CONTAINMENT**

PATENT APPLICATION


Art Unit: 1765

Examiner: L. Umez-Eronini

Customer No. 23910

CERTIFICATE OF MAILING UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.8

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited in the United States Postal Service with sufficient postage as first class mail in an envelope addressed to Box AF, Commissioner for Patents, Washington, DC 20231, on May 7, 2002.


Jason D. Lohr, Reg. No. 48,163
Signature Date: May 7, 2002

(Attorney Signature)

RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. § 1.116

Box AF
Commissioner for Patents
Washington, DC 20231

Sir:

This RESPONSE is in reply to the Office Action mailed January 29, 2002. No fee is due for the addition of any new claims.

Amendments

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Claims:

Please cancel claims 1-9, amend claims 12, 13, 22, 25, 26, 28-30, 34, 36-40, and add new claims 42-49, all as shown below. All pending claims are reproduced below, including those that remain unchanged. Marked up copies of the amended claims illustrating the changes are shown in the Appendix to this Response.

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